II *No. of applications pending in each Passport Office as on* 1-1-1991 *including applications received on* 31-12-90

| S. No. | Name of Passport Office | Appli-cations pending | Average time to issue passport |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Ahmedabad | 1146 | 7 weeks |
| 2 | Bangalore | 6195 | 5-6 weeks |
| 3 | Bareilly . | 10500 | 16 weeks |
| 4 | Bhopal . | 3234 | 6 weeks |
| 5 | Bhubaneshwar | 359 | 5 weeks |
| 6 | Bombay | 21409 | 5-6 weeks |
| 7 | Calcutta | 7633 | 5 weeks |
| 8 | Chandgarh Shimla | 25721 | 13 weeks |
| 9 | Cochin Trivandrum | 18764 | 12 weeks |
| 10 | Delhi | 13966 | 6-7 weeks |
| 11 | Guwahati | 721 | 7 weeks |
| 12 | Hyderabad | 8004 | 5 weeks |
| 13 | Jaipur | 6221 | 9 weeks |
| 14 | Jalandhar . | 46997 | 2S weeks |
| 15 | Kozhikode | 14331 | 7 weeks |
| 16 | Lucknow . | 12S72 | 9 weeks |
| 17 | Madras . | 7403 | 4 weeks |
| 13 | Nagpur . | 399 | 5 weeks |
| 19 | Panaji (Goa) | 854 | 4 weeks |
| 20 | Pana | 44S5 | 5 weeks |
| 21 | Tiruchirapalli | 20317 | 6 weeks |

**National river action Plan**

*146. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) he: Government propose to launch a National river action plan' for the prevention and control of water pol lution; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY); (a) and (b) The Government proposes to launch a National River Action Plan on the analogy of the work taken up under Ganga Action Plan. The Plan would be implemented in the following manner:—

1. The works would be prioritised according to their benefits and implemented in a phased programme according to the availability of resources.
2. The thrust areas for treatment would be sewage interception, diversion and treatment and control of industrial and non-point pollution.

**3.** The capital cost will be shared equally between the Centre and the States. The operation and maintenance will be the responsibility of the States.

"Gomti and! Ganga cleaning Plan'

147. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gomti (Uttar Pradesh) and Ganga Cleaning Plan is not going according to schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what amount has been spent so far on the above plans separately; and

(d) by when, the above projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY); (a) and (b) 261 schemes have been sanctioned under the Ganga Action Plan for the River Ganga. This Plan does not cover River Gomti. 159 schemes have been completed so far. While there is some slippage in some schemes due to reasons such as litigation in courts, the others are keeping up the schedule.

(c) An amount of about Rs. 215 crores has been spent so far under Ganga Action Plan.

(d) It is expected that the remaining schemes would be completed by June, 1993.

**Proposal to Import Telecommunication equipment from Japan**

*148. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a pro posal to import telecommunication equip ment from Japan;

(b) if so, what are the details of equip ment which is proposed to be imported and the cost of the import hill:

(c) whether any other country was also contacted for procuring the equipment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SANJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir**.**

(b) to (d) The proposals to import telecommunication equipment from Japan are as follows:

NEAX

There is a proposal to impart 1,41,900 lines of expansion of existing 159 exchanges of NEAX type. The f.o.b. cost of the import is Japanese Yen **1563** million. Since these equipment are for expansion of existing exchanges, a quotation from the original supplier was obtained. The financing for this proposal would be from OECF credit, Orders for this equipment will be placed only after obtaining due clearances of the Government and the Financing Agencies.

CTMX

In order to modernise the Manual Trunk Exchanges, the Department decided in 1987 to import fully automatic Operator assisted computerised digital trunk manual exchanges (CTMX) for 8 big cities. Accordingly global tenders were issued in 1987 under loan from Asian Development Bank after getting the concurrence from the associated Ministries. However, before the orders could be placed, the Telecom Commission was formed who decided not to import the items which could be developed in **the** country. Consequently the procurement of CTMX exchanges was dropped and the ADB intimated about the dropping of this proposal. However, the development of this equipment indigenously did not materialise and therefore the proposal to import CTMX was revived. A Japanese company was the lowest approved party in the earlier tender. However, the proposal is still in a preliminary stage.

**"Committee for examining measures to check pollution"**

*150. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT